

REMARKS

Claims 2-22 are pending, with claims 9, 16, 21 and 22 being independent. Claims 1 and 23-57 have been canceled, and claims 2-7, 9, 13-17, 21 and 22 have been amended. In particular, claims 9, 16, 21 and 22 have been amended to place them in independent form, and claims 2-7, 13-15 and 17 have been amended to depend from claim 16. No new matter has been introduced.

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 9-12, 16, 21 and 22 are directed to allowable subject. In view of this, claims 9, 16, 21 and 22 have been amended to place them in independent form including all of the limitations of the claims from which they depend.

Claims 1-8, 13-15 and 17-20 were rejected as being unpatentable over Lee (U.S. Patent No. 6,845,583) in view of McClain (U.S. Patent No. 4,795,195) (claims 1-6, 14 and 15); Lee in view of McClain and Cangelli (GB 2116478) (claims 7 and 8); Lee in view of McClain and Pines (U.S. Patent 6,591,523) (claim 13); and Lee in view of McClain and Phillips (U.S. Patent 5,829,790) (claims 17-20). Applicant submits that these rejections are obviated by the cancellation of claim 1 and the amendment of claims 2-7, 13-15 and 17 to depend from claim 16.

Applicant submits that all claims are in condition for allowance.

The fee in the amount of \$510 in payment of the three-month extension fee is being paid concurrently herewith on the Electronic Filing System (EFS) by way of Deposit Account authorization. Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 6/6/06

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John F. Hayden  
Reg. No. 37,640

Fish & Richardson P.C.  
1425 K Street, N.W.  
11th Floor  
Washington, DC 20005-3500  
Telephone: (202) 783-5070  
Facsimile: (202) 783-2331  
40331063.doc